

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SP-02 OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00

SY-05 FAA-00 WRD-01 MCT-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01

/087 W

-----075715 070331Z /75

R 062057Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5534

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS CASC CI PE VE (PECK, JOEL, SPENCER, BERKLEY)

SUBJECT: SKYJACKING INCIDENT ENDS

REF: A) LIMA 5569, B) SANTIAGO 3863, C) SANTIAGO 5103

1. PASSENGERS AND CREW OF THE SKYJACKED LADECO AIRCRAFT ARRIVED SAFELY AT PUDAHUEL AIRPORT AT 2254 HOURS ON JULY 5, BRINGING THE INCIDENT -- THE SECOND IN TWO WEEKS -- TO A CLOSE. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS HIGHLIGHT GOP'S MEDIATION EFFORTS AND VENEZUELAN EMBASSY'S DECISION TO TAKE IN THE FOUR SKYJACKERS.

2. THE NEWS ACCOUNTS QUOTE GOP FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE DE LA PUENTE AS SAYING THAT THE GOC CATEGORICALLY REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE SKYJACKERS. DE LA PUENTE ASSERTED THAT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AERONAUTICS GENERAL SERGIO LEIGH GUZMAN (BROTHER OF JUNTA MEMBER GUSTAVO LEIGH) REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET, THAT GOP AUTHORITIES

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NOT PROVIDE ANY FUEL TO THE AIRCRAFT. GENERAL LEIGH DENIED HAVING MADE SUCH A REQUEST.

3. THE SANTIAGO PRESS ON JULY 6 ALSO SAID THAT, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM LIMA, THE FOUR -- 3 MEN AND 1 WOMAN, ALL REPORTEDLY BETWEEN THE AGES 25 AND 28 -- IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF THE OUTLAWED CHILEAN

SOCIALIST PARTY (PS). THE SKYJACKERS SOUGHT THE RELEASE OF EX PS LEADERS ERIC SCHNAKE AND CARLOS LAZO, BOTH SENTENCED AT THE AIR FORCE TRIALS OF 1974 TO LONG TERMS ON CHARGES OF SEDITION AND TREASON (REF B). THEY ALSO DEMANDED SAFE PASSAGE TO HAVANA OR PARIS, IN RETURN FOR THE RELEASE OF THE PASSENGERS, CREW AND AIRCRAFT.

4. GOC INVESTIGATIVE POLICE ANNOUNCED THAT TWO OF THE SKYJACKERS -- BROTHERS WILIBALDO AND CARLOS ALARCON -- WERE LONG TIME CRIMINALS WITH ARREST SHEETS INCLUDING ASSAULT AND BATTERY AND FRAUD, DATING BACK TO DECEMBER 1972. THE POLICE DREW A BLANK ON THE OTHER TWO. THE EMBASSY'S INTERNAL NAME CHECKS WERE NEGATIVE.

5. COMMENT: WE DO NOT THINK THAT THE GOC HAS GIVEN SERIOUS STUDY TO SKYJACKING SOLUTIONS. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT IT HAS DEALT WITH THESE TWO CASES INSTINCTIVELY AND AD HOC. WE ASSUME THE GOC IS COMFORTABLE WITH A HARD LINE, NO NEGOTIATION POLICY. IN BOTH RECENT INCIDENTS THIS POLICY PROVED SUCCESSFUL. THE PRESENCE OF TWO US CITIZENS ON BOARD THIS FLIGHT BRINGS HOME THE US INTEREST IN APPROPRIATE REACTION TO POSSIBLE FUTURE CASES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON AGENCIES' ASSESSMENT OF THE WAY THE GOA, GOP AND GOC HANDLED THE LAN AND LADECO CASES.
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BOYATT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, POLITICAL ASYLUM, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770240-0689
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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